



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 33-35, 39, 45, 46, 51, 52, 64, 65, 67-72, 74, 75, 77 and 78; and cancel claims 36-38, 40-44, 47, 53, 56-63, 66, 73, 76, 79-80 without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims, in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting the presence or absence of a wound, ~~or~~ wounded tissue, an inflammation site or inflamed tissue, comprising:
administering to a subject a bacterium, wherein the bacterium encodes a detectable protein or a protein that induces a detectable signal;
monitoring a~~the~~ subject to detect the detectable protein or signal to detect whom a
~~detectable microorganism or cell has been administered for detection of the microorganism or~~
~~cell; and detecting the presence or absence~~ accumulation of the bacterium at any wound,
wounded tissue, inflammation site or inflamed tissue in the subject ~~detectable microorganism~~
~~or cell~~, thereby detecting the presence or absence of a wound, ~~or~~ wounded tissue, an
inflammation site or inflamed tissue in the subject, ~~or~~, wherein:

the subject is one who is being evaluated for the presence or absence of a wound, ~~or~~
wounded tissue wound, an inflammation site or inflamed tissue;

the ~~microorganism or cell~~ bacterium is non-pathogenic or attenuated; and
the ~~microorganism or cell~~ bacterium is recognized by the immune system of the
subject; and

the bacterium replicates in the subject.

34. (Currently Amended) A The method of claim 33, wherein the subject has an
inflammation site or inflamed tissue ~~for detecting the presence or absence of an inflammation~~
~~site or inflamed tissue, comprising:~~

~~monitoring a subject to whom a detectable microorganism or cell has been~~
~~administered for detection of the microorganism or cell; and~~
~~detecting the presence or absence of the detectable microorganism or cell, thereby~~
~~detecting the presence or absence of an inflammation site or inflamed tissue, wherein:~~
~~the subject is one who is being evaluated for the presence or absence of an~~
~~inflammation site or inflamed tissue;~~
~~the microorganism or cell is non-pathogenic or attenuated; and~~
~~the microorganism or cell is recognized by the immune system of the subject.~~

35. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method of claim 33, further comprising treating the subject for the detected wound, wounded tissue, inflammation site or inflamed tissue for detecting the presence or absence of a disease or condition in a subject, comprising:
~~monitoring a subject to whom a detectable microorganism or cell has been administered for detection of the microorganism or cell; and~~
~~detecting the presence or absence of the detectable microorganism or cell, thereby detecting the presence or absence of a disease or condition,~~
~~wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of endocarditis, pericarditis, inflammatory bowel disease, low back pain, temporal arteritis, polyarteritis nodosa, an arthritic disease, atherosclerotic plaque, coronary artery disease, peripheral vascular disease, cerebral artery disease, auto-immune disease, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, a fracture, an incision and a burn; and~~
~~the subject is one who is being evaluated for the presence or absence of the disease or condition;~~
~~the microorganism or cell is non-pathogenic or attenuated; and~~
~~the microorganism or cell is recognized by the immune system of the subject.~~

36-38. (Canceled).

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the wound, wounded tissue, an inflammation site or inflamed tissue condition treated is an atherosclerotic plaque.

40-44. (Canceled).

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell was~~ is administered intravenously into the subject.

46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell was~~ is administered intravenously into the subject.

47-50. (Canceled).

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[36]]~~ 33, wherein the bacterium is selected from among ~~the group consisting of~~ *Salmonella*, *Vibrio*, *Listeria* and *Escherichia*.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[37]]~~ 34, wherein the bacterium is selected from among ~~the group consisting of~~ *Salmonella*, *Vibrio*, *Listeria* and *Escherichia*.

53. (Canceled).

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella typhimurium*, *Vibrio cholerae*, *Listeria monocytogenes* and *Escherichia coli*.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella typhimurium*, *Vibrio cholerae*, *Listeria monocytogenes* and *Escherichia coli*.

56-63. (Canceled).

64. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[61]] 33, wherein the signal is detectable by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[62]] 34, wherein the signal is detectable by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

66. (Canceled).

67. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a protein that ~~can bind a~~ binds to a contrasting agent, chromophore or a compound or ligand for visualization of a wound or wounded tissue.

68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a protein that ~~can bind a~~ binds to a contrasting agent, chromophore or a compound or ligand for visualization of an inflammation site or inflamed tissue.

69. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the ~~microorganism or cell~~ allows for detection of a wound, or wounded tissue, inflammation site or inflamed tissue through is effected by detection of detecting light produced by the detectable protein or signal.

70. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the ~~microorganism or cell~~ allows for detection of a wound, or wounded tissue, inflammation site or inflamed tissue through is effected by detection of detecting light produced by the detectable protein or signal.

71. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a fluorescent protein, luminescent protein or metal-binding protein.

72. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a fluorescent protein, luminescent protein or metal-binding protein.

73. (Canceled).

74. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a luciferase and/or a ~~substrate for luciferase~~ protein for the production of a substrate for the luciferase.

75. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a luciferase and/or a ~~substrate for luciferase~~ protein for the production of a substrate for the luciferase.

76. (Canceled).

77. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a ~~GFP or RFP~~ green fluorescent protein or a red fluorescent protein.

78. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the bacterium ~~microorganism or cell~~ comprises DNA encoding a ~~GFP or RFP~~ green fluorescent protein or a red fluorescent protein.

79-80. (Canceled).